English 5388:
History and Practice of Rhetoric
Fall 2024

Instructor: Dr. Mark Sidey
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Office: CAS 248
Office Hours: T/R 9:45-10:45; T 12:30-1:30, and by appointment
Section: 061—this is an asynchronous online class

Catalog Description

A study of selected primary texts by rhetoricians from the classical ages to the present and of recent scholarly theories and commentaries. Topics might include changing definitions and constructions of rhetoric, the Sophists, the relation between rhetoric and epistemology, and the role of rhetoric in the history and development of liberal education.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to

- Read, analyze, and discuss primary rhetorical theory texts
- Analyze and reflect on their theory of rhetoric
- Apply rhetorical theory to their teaching or other focal point

Textbooks

Bizzell, P., Herzberg, B., & Reames, R. (Eds.). (2020). *The rhetorical tradition: Readings from classical times to the present*. Boston, MA: Bedford/St. Martin's.

Abbreviated *TRT* in course documents.

Wu, H., & Graban, T. S. (2023)*. Global rhetorical traditions.* Parlor Press. 978-1-64317-316-0.

Abbreviated *GRT* in course documents.

Course Grade

For information on assignments, see the assignment prompts and grading criteria in Canvas.

Component	Percent of Course Grade
Reflection on Rhetoric	10%
Discussion Board Posts	35%
Synthesis Matrix	15%
Paper	40%

Course Grade Scale

A 90% to 100% of possible points
B 80% to   89% of possible points
C 70% to   79% of possible points
D 60% to   69% of possible points
F   0% to   59% of possible points

Minimum Requirement to Earn a C in the Class

To earn a C or above in the class, students must earn a C or above on all the grade components. A grade of D or F on the reflection on rhetoric, discussion board posts, synthesis matrix, or the paper will result in the grade for the class being no higher than a D.

Extra-Credit Work

There is no extra credit work in this course.

Public Writing

I will use student work to discuss what is working well and areas for improvement. If you would like me to not use a particular draft, please let me know.

Missed Work Policy

If you see that you will miss, or you do miss, a week or more of class work due to an illness or a significant life event, contact me ASAP. I will discuss the situation with you to determine if you can keep up with the class. Documentation may be required.

For relevant UTT policies, see the UTT policy on "Class Attendance/Excused Absences," and the UTT policy on withdrawals including "Medical Withdrawal/Course Load Reduction."

Submitting the Reflection, Paper, and Matrix

The reflection and the paper have to be submitted as a Word document. The matrix can be submitted as a Word doc or as an Excel file. Assignments have to be submitted to the correct drop box in Canvas. Do not zip your files or submit a PDF. Assignments that do not adhere to these requirements will be graded a 0.

For a free copy of Microsoft Office, click here.

Class Communication

There is a discussion board thread for questions on the class and assignments. If you have individual questions that can be answered quickly, send me a Canvas message. If you want to discuss your questions, contact me to schedule a Zoom meeting.

The last day and time for Zoom conferences is noon Friday December 6th.

Announcements in Canvas

I will use announcements in Canvas to communicate essential information. It is your responsibility to read and utilize the information in announcements.

For a tutorial on announcements, click here. To manage notifications, click on "Canvas notifications" in the blue box at the top of the page. For help in resetting notifications, click on the help button on the left-hand side of your UTT Canvas home page (the question mark in a circle) and call the "Canvas Support Hotline (Students)."

Contacting Me

A Canvas message is the most effective way to contact me. Per the UTT Email Policy, I will not reply to emails sent from non-UTT email addresses.

Canvas messages and emails and should provide a succinct overview of the topic and should have complete sentences and reasonably correct grammar. In the subject line list the class (ENGL-5388), your name, and a topic.

Academic Dishonesty & Disruptive Behavior

This class has a **Zero Tolerance Policy** for academic dishonesty. Any act of academic dishonesty will result in immediate failure of the entire course and will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Intervention. For the UTT definition of "academic dishonesty," see "University Policies and Information" in the UT Tyler Syllabus module.

Disruptive behavior will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Intervention and may result in failing the class and/or University sanctions. For the UTT definition of "disruptive behavior," see "University Policies and Information" in the UT Tyler Syllabus module.

Using Work from Other Classes

From the UTT Manual of Policies and Procedures for Student Affairs Chapter 8. Student Conduct and Discipline:

Sec. 8-802. Academic Dishonesty
b. "Academic Dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable, in whole or in part, to another person without giving sufficient credit, taking an examination for another person, falsifying academic records, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the

student (such as, but not limited to: **submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor**, providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment), or the attempt to commit such an act. (Emphasis added)

Before you draw on research, written work, or any other work from another class for any assignment in this class, consult with me.

Required UTT AI Statement

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool.

Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

AI Use in this Course

You can use AI programs (ChatGPT, Copilot, etc.) for the paper. The reflection on rhetoric, discussion board posts (original and responses), and the entries in your synthesis matrix should be your work alone—using AI for these assignments is not allowed.

Any use of AI tools must be appropriately acknowledged and cited, following APA or MLA guidelines, including the specific version of the tool used. The submitted work should include the exact prompt that you used to generate the content and the AI tool's complete response as an appendix. Because AI-generated content is not necessarily accurate or appropriate, you must assess the validity and applicability of any submitted AI output. You will not earn full credit and may fail an assignment if inaccurate, invalid, or inappropriate information is found in your work. Further, the majority of the paper should not be AI-generated content. Papers that have substantial AI-generated content will fail.

Required UT Tyler Policies & Information
See "University Policies and Information" in the UT Tyler Syllabus Module.

Class Calendar
The schedule is subject to change. See Canvas for assignment due dates.

Time Frame	Focus
Week 1	Intro to course & reflection on rhetoric
Weeks 2-3	Ancient rhetoric
Weeks 4-5	Medieval & renaissance rhetoric
Weeks 6-7	Modern rhetoric
Week 8	Rhetoric & writing
Weeks 9-11	Comparative rhetoric
Week 12	Student choice
Weeks 13-15	Working on the paper

Key Dates
Sept 9   Census Date
Nov 4   Last Day to Drop (UTT Drop Policy)
Nov 25-29 Thanksgiving Holiday

Syllabus Changes
Per the UTT Syllabus Policy: "The information contained in the syllabus, other than the grading criteria and absence and make-up policies, may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice as long as the change is without prejudice to the students."